THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

" Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello*

No. 6380. *MONDAY, June* 6, 1842. *Price* 1*d.*

" The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

On Saturday evening, Sheridan Knowles's new and original Play, in five acts, entitled *The Rose of Arragon,* was produced for the first time at this Theatre, and met with the most triumphant success. We cannot in the present number speak of the acting, scenery, &c. as we have barely space to give the following concise account of the plot :—

Alonzo, (H. Holl,) falls in love with and privately marries Olivia, the daughter of a peasant, (Mrs. C. Kean.) He afterwards confesses his union publicly, and the King his father, apparently consents to it, but he secretly resolves to detach his son from what he considers a degrading connexion, and orders him to join the army on the frontier. Alonzo departs,—but no sooner is he gone than the King puts in practice the design he had of separating Olivia from his son, and summoning his council declares the marriage void ; and the unoffending wife is driven from the palace at Saragossa, and commanded by an edict never to enter the city again on pain of death. Olivia has a brother, Alasco, (C. Kean,) an impetuous but noble spirited young man, fondly attached to his sister, whom he regards as a prize which added more grace to royalty thon royalty conferred on her. Alasco has a seeming friend, Almagro, (Phelps,) to whom he wished to give his sister in marriage before she had wedded Alonzo. This Almagro is a selfish, ambitious, and crafty man, but who has art sufficient to impose upon Alasco, and make him believe him to be all that is just, brave, and generous. The news of Olivia's repudiation reaches her family, and fury burns in Alasco's breast. Roused by Alasco and Almagro the peasantry, who are ripe for revolt, burst into open rebellion. Olivia, who has recently returned to Saragossa, in defiance of her sentence of banishment, rushes into the presence of the King, and informs him that his life is in danger—that the insurgents of Arragon are marching upon the city, and she implores him to save his life by instant flight. This, however, he refuses—the insurgents rush in, and are about to sacrifice him to their vengeance, when his life is spared by Alasco, who places him in custody, and Olivia is proclaimed Regent until the return of the Prince. In the third act, Saragossa is in the hands of the rebels, and Almagro, having by his intrigues been proclaimed sole Regent, resolves to remove Alasco where he will not be in the way of his designs on Olivia, for whom he still entertains a violent passion. The fourth act brings back Alonzo to Saragossa, and in order to thwart Almagro's designs, he offers himself to him as a man ready to undertake any villainy he may be employed to do, and is taken into his employment. Alasco, at length, discovers the baseness of Almagro and upbraids his false friend for his treachery. The King, who had also been marked out for death, has been privately liberated by Olivia, who herself remains in the power of the rebel Almagro, who, perceiving the storm gathering over his head, grows desperate in his wickedness, orders Alasco's father to the torture, and prepares by force to make Olivia marry him. He is, however, frustrated in his revenge, love, and hate, takes poison, and expires in the presenee of those against whom

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his machinations were directed. The King, whose life had been saved by the peasant wife of his son, no longer hesitates to revoke their divorce, and make all parties happy. At the conclusion the applause was most enthusiastic, and the author was vehemently called for, but Mr. Vining came forward and assured the audience that Mr. Knowles was not in the Theatre. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean and Mr. Phelps were next called, and on their appearance were loudly cheered from all parts of the house, which was crammed to the ceiling.

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer,

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town :—

Monday, stroll to MADAME TUSSAUD'S elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker-street, Portman-square.—Just added to her unrivalled collection the King of Prussia, the Prince of Wales, Commissioner Lin and his Consort, modelled for this exhibition by Lamqua, of Canton, with the original magnificent dresses,&c. obtained at a great risk ; the only figures of the kind ever seen in Europe. Also just added, the Princess Royal, in her beautiful cot, with the gorgeous Robes of George the Fourth designed by himself at a cost of 18,000*l.*

Tuesday, paid another visit to the THAMES TUNNEL as it will be shortly closed to the public, in order to make the necessary preparations for opening it as a thoroughfare for foot passengers. It is open daily, (Sunday excepted) from 9 in the morning until dark, and lighted with gas. The Tunnel is now completed, and is 1,200 feet in length, and the present entrance is on the Surrey side of the river, close to Rotherhithe Church.

Afterwards, I am to be found admiring the beautiful collection of Paintings at the SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, East, which is now open for the season—crowded with fashionables—Admission 1s. Intend to join the Conversazione, subscription 1*l.* 1*s.*

Wednesday, call at 21, Old Bond Street, to hear the extraordinary novelty, *The Rock Harmonicon*, which produces tones of the richest and sweetest harmony, wholly produced from fragments found among the Rocks of the majestic Skiddaw, in Cumberland. It extends to a compass of five octaves and a half, accompanied with all the additional semitones. This extraordinary instrument is the invention of Mr. John Richardson, and his three sons perform on it, daily, from 10 o'clock until Dusk. The variety of tunes they execute are really endless.

Thursday, I am to be found at the *Magic Cave*, 35, Strand, admiring a most interesting view of *The City of Hamburgh*, painted by Mr. Cox, from sketches taken upon the spot by James Medhurst, Esq., towards the end of the late disastrous conflagration. The extraordinary effect produced gives nearly all the reality of the fire itself. In additiou to this view there are seventeen others equally effective. Open from 10 in the morning until 10 at night.—Admission 6d.

You may talk of eye snuff, but after having the head-ache for a year, popped into PERRING'S, 85, Strand. got one of his superb Beavers, so light lost the head-ache in a minute—was shewn one of his elegant Velvet Hats, could not resist buying one of them also, price 13s —wonderful.

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at EVANS'S Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,– quite delighted with the excellence of the singing—commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Friday, called at EMMETT'S, 27, Holborn Hill, to view his Novel Pen Maker, by which any one can make a superior Pen in less than one minute ! also his improved Needle Threader, to enable Ladies, whose sight is impaired to thread their needles with the greatest ease—a most ingenious contrivance.

Hearing of WILSON'S famous New Footed Boots, called at his *depôt* for New, Misfitted, and Second-hand Boots and Shoes, 95, & 97, Holborn Hill, [opposite St. Andrew's Church,] found them of the most superior description both in fashion, make, and material, prices from 10s. 6d. to 16s.—also inspected his very best boots, which he makes to measure at 25s.—these cannot be surpassed. There is a distinct department for Ladies and Children at 97, which is very convenient.—Mrs. P. intends going

Saturday, I examine MISS LINWOOD'S curious NeedleWork, Leicester Square—lately added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's, &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, English Opera.

This Evening, the Musical Farce of The

Agreeable Surprise !

Sir F. Friendly, Mr Granby, Compton, Mr J. Bland,
Eugene, Mr Barker, Lingo, Mr Harley,
Mrs Cheshire, Mrs Tayleure, Laura, Miss Hughes,
Fringe, Miss Pincott, Cowslip, Mrs Humby.

After which, the Farce of

BLUE DEVILS

Megrim, Mr O. SMITH, James, Mr OXBERRY,
Demison, Mr GRANBY, Bailiff, Mr GARDEN,
Annette, Miss PINCOTT.

To be followed by, the Farce of The

BEE HIVE !

Mingle..Mr HARLEY—in which he will sing
"When a Man Weds,"
Major Rattan, Mr J. Bland, Joey, Mr Garden,
Captain Merton, Mr Barker,
Emily, Miss Murray, Mrs Mingle, Mrs Tayleure,
Cicely, Mrs HUMBY.

After which, (First Time) a Burletta, in One Act, entitled The

Water Witches !

Water Witch Crew.

Fanny Sparks, Miss Pincott, Caroline Dormer Miss Crisp
Clara Courtney, Miss Fairbrother, Maria, Miss Hughes,
Coxswain..Murray.

Members of the Funny Club.

Tom Townend, Mr J. Vining, Charles, Mr Barker,
Augustus, Mr A. Wigan, Frank, Mr W. H. Bland,
Joe Smith, (Coxswain) Oxberry.
Jack in the Water, Mr Ireland, Waiters, Mr Burt, &c,
Mittens, Miss Murray, Betsey, Miss Taylor.

To which will be added, the Grand Ballet of The

Daughter of the Danube.

Baron de Willibald, Mr Ireland, Rudolph, Mr Gilbert,
[redacted] (an Imp) Master Marshall,
Ulrick, Mr Garden, Herald, Mr Morgan,
Fleur-de-Champs, Miss Ballin,
Jeunegarde, Mrs Emden, La Violette, Miss Fairbrother,
Nymph of the Danube, Mrs Diddear.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

German Opera.

This Evening, the Opera of

Der Freischutz !

The Music by C. M. Von Weber.

Prince Ottokar, Herr BENESCH,
Max.....Herr ABRESCH,
Caspar, Herr STAUDIGL,
Zamiel ..... Herr DORING,
Kilian, Herr DEROSSI,
Hermit.....Herr BRUCKER,
Kuno, Herr PICHON,
Agathe,.....Madame S. HEINEFETTER,
Annchen, Fraulein GNED.

Bridesmaids, &c by

THE CHORUS

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF HERR ROECKEL.

Herr LACHNER,

(Musical Director in Ordinary to theGrand Duke of Baden) will preside over the

ORCHESTRA

Which will be composed, on a very Extensive Scale, of eminent German Musicians.

Conductor, Herr GANZ.

☞ *Prices of Admission :—*

Dress Boxes, 7s. First and Second Circles, 5s. Pit 3s. 6d.
Gallery 2s.

To-morrow, Robert the Devil.

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